

REMARKS

1. In response to the outstanding Office Action mailed July 23, 2007, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration. Claims 1-43 were last presented for examination. Claims 1-18 have been allowed; claims 19-21 were rejected and claims 22-43 were previously withdrawn from consideration. By the foregoing Amendment, claims 19-43 have been canceled. Thus, upon entry of this paper, allowed claims 1-18 will remain in this application. Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicant respectfully submits the application is in condition for allowance.

Allowed Matter

2. First, Applicants notes with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 1-18 are allowed.

Claim Rejections

3. Claims 19-21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly anticipated by European Patent No. 1239367 (hereinafter, "Borgatti") or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Borgatti. Claims 19-21 have been canceled by way of the present amendment. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the outstanding rejections are moot and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Dependent Claims

4. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them *a fortiori* independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

5. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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